

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-56 (canceled).

57. (currently amended) An applicator (12) for distributing a cosmetic preparation on the skin, semi-mucous membrane or mucous membrane, comprising a holding portion (18) and an applicator portion (30) whereby the holding portion (18) has a holding part (28) and whereby the applicator portion (30) is fixed in a direction of longitudinal extent of the applicator (12) by means of a connecting part (910; 1010), wherein both the holding portion (18) and also the applicator portion (30) at least partially comprise plastic material and the plastic material of the holding portion (18) is harder than the plastic material of the applicator portion (30), ~~and wherein~~ the holding portion (18) extends in the direction of longitudinal extent only till the end of the connecting part (910; 1010) into the applicator portion (30) and, provided between the holding portion (18) and the applicator portion (30) is a connecting layer (32) comprising a mixing layer comprising the applicator portion plastic material and the holding portion plastic material.

58. (cancelled).

59. (currently amended) An applicator (12) as set forth in ~~claim 58~~ claim 57, wherein the mixing layer is between 1/100 mm and several 1/10 mm thick.

60. (currently amended) An applicator (12) as set forth in ~~claim 58~~ claim 57, wherein the connecting layer (32) has a positively locking connection (34) between the applicator portion (30) and the holding portion (18).

61. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) is formed by a casing which at least partially encloses a hollow space.

62. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) forms an extension in the direction of longitudinal extent of less than 14 mm.

63. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) extends at least in portion-wise manner rotationally symmetrically in the direction of the longitudinal extent of the applicator (12).

64. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) tapers away from the holding portion (18) in the direction of the longitudinal extent of the applicator (12).

65. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) has at least one substantially even, flattened portion (916, 1016).

66. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion plastic material contains silicone rubber.

67. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion plastic material contains soft PVC.

68. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion plastic material comprises a thermoplastic elastomer.

69. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 68, wherein a block copolymer is used as the applicator portion plastic material.

70. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 68, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is a blend of thermoplastic substance with elastic particles.

71. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 68, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer has a hardness of between 2 and 45 Shore A.

72. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 68, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer has a hardness of between 5 and 12 Shore A.

73. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the casing has a wall thickness of between

0.8 mm and 1.3 mm and an extension in the direction of the longitudinal extent of between 3 mm and 7 mm.

74. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 73, wherein the casing has a hardness of between 5 and 12 Shore A, a wall thickness of between 0.8 mm and 1.3 mm and an extension in the direction of longitudinal extent of about 5 mm.

75. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 71, wherein the casing has a hardness of between 10 and 45 Shore A, a wall thickness of between 0.5 mm and 1 mm and an extension in the direction of longitudinal extent of between 5 mm and 10 mm.

76. (previously presented) An applicator (12) at least as set forth in claim 68, wherein the applicator portion plastic material comprises a thermoplastic silicone elastomer having a hardness of between 10 and 30 Shore A.

77. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the applicator portion (30) has a surface structure comprising a plurality of structural elements.

78. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 77, wherein the structural elements extend substantially perpendicularly to the applicator portion surface a distance of less than 1.2 mm.

79. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 78, wherein the structural elements include knobs.

80. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 79, wherein the knobs extend between 0.25 mm and 0.5 mm.

81. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 79, wherein the knobs extend 0.35 mm.

82. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 80, wherein the knobs have a diameter of between 0.1 and 0.3 mm.

83. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 81, wherein the knobs have a diameter of 0.2 mm.

84. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 78, wherein the structural elements include crowns with respective peripherally arranged prongs.

85. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 84, wherein the crowns are hexagonal having a respective prong arranged at each corner.

86. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 84, wherein the crowns are of different cross-sections.

87. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 84, wherein the prongs extend substantially perpendicular to a surface of the applicator portion of between 0.2 mm and 0.6 mm.

88. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 84, wherein the prongs extend substantially perpendicular to a surface of the applicator portion of 0.4 mm.

89. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 77, wherein the structural elements include slats.

90. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 89, wherein the slats extend perpendicularly to the applicator portion surface a distance of between 0.1 mm and 0.3 mm.

91. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 89, wherein the slats extend perpendicularly to the applicator portion surface a distance of between 0.2 mm and 0.3 mm.

92. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 89, wherein the slats are oriented substantially transversely with respect to the direction of the longitudinal extent of the applicator.

93. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 89, wherein the slats are annularly closed.

94. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 93, wherein the slats ring are arranged substantially rotationally symmetrically around the direction of the longitudinal extent of the applicator.

95. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 93, wherein the slats ring are arranged substantially on the even, flattened portion (916, 1016).

96. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 77, wherein the structural elements include bristles.

97. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 96, wherein the bristles extend perpendicularly to the applicator portion surface a distance of between 0.3 mm and 1 mm.

98. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 97, wherein the bristles extend a distance of between 0.4 mm and 0.6 mm and have a diameter of between 0.4 mm and 0.6 mm.

99. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 97, wherein the bristles extend a distance of between 0.7 mm and 1 mm and have a diameter of between 0.1 mm and 0.3 mm.

100. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the holding portion plastic material is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic material, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyacetate, polyacetal, polystyrene, mixed polymers of polystyrene and polyamide.

101. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the holding portion (18) at least partially comprises a thermosetting material.

102. (previously presented) An applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, wherein the holding portion (18) at least partially comprises metal.

103. (previously presented) A process for the production of the applicator (12) as set forth in claim 57, including the step of injecting the applicator portion (30) in the direction of the longitudinal extent of the applicator on to the holding portion (18) by means of an injection machine.

104. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 103, including producing the holding portion (18) at least partially from plastic material in the injection machine in an injection operation preceding injection of the applicator portion (30) on to the holding portion.

105. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 104, including producing a positively locking connection (34) during the injection operation between the applicator portion (30) and the holding portion (18).

106. (currently amended) A process as set forth in claim 104, including producing during the injection operation [[a]] the mixing layer (32) between the applicator portion (30) and the holding portion (18).

107. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 106, including injecting the applicator portion on to the holding portion prior to cooling of the holding portion (18) to ambient temperature.

108. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 107, including injecting the applicator portion on to the holding portion at a processing temperature of the holding portion material of between 30°C and 80°C.

109. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 103, including injecting the applicator portion on to the holding portion using an injection molding mold having a core around which material is injected and thereafter dissolving the core to form a hollow space in the applicator portion.

110. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 103, including injecting the applicator portion on to the holding portion of an injection molding mold having a laser-sintered negative of a desired surface profile of the applicator portion (30).

111. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 103, including producing the holding portion (18) from a material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic material, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyacetate, polyacetal, polystyrene, mixed polymers of polystyrene, and polyamide.

112. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 104, including fitting the holding portion (18) with an insert

portion made of thermosetting material into the injection machine prior to injecting the applicator portion (30) on to the holding portion.

113. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 104, including fitting the holding portion (18) with an insert portion made of metal into the injection machine prior to injecting the applicator portion (30) on to the holding portion.

114. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 104, including producing a cover cap (16) in the injection machine or in a second injection machine arranged near the injection machine for the applicator portion (30).

115. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 114, including fitting the cover cap (16) on to the applicator portion (30) after injecting the applicator portion (30) on to the holding portion in the injection machine.

116. (previously presented) A process as set forth in claim 114, including fitting the cover cap (16) on to the applicator portion (30) on an assembly apparatus arranged between the injection machine for the applicator portion (30) and the second injection machine for the cover cap.